

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice Minutes

Committee	Utah Board of Juvenile Justice Annual Meeting
Date	Thursday, October 16, 2014
Time	8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Location	Utah State Capitol Complex, Senate Bldg., Copper Room
Members Present	Donovan Bergstrom, Chris Crowder, Patrick Garcia, Gini Highfield, Scott Jackson, Anthony Johnson, Spencer Larsen, Nindy Le, Judge Michie, Van Nguyen, Brent Platt, Troy Rawlings, Pam Vickrey
Members Excused	Pat Berckman, Karen Crompton, Shirlee Silversmith, Rachael Skidmore
Members Absent	
Staff	Reg Garff, Jo Lynn Kruse, Cuong Nguyen, Jennifer Valencia, David Walsh
Visitors	Katherine Abarca (ACLU), Susan Burke (JJS), Jennifer Cobia (UCJC), Dr. Moises Prospero, Chris Roach (JJS), Dawn Marie Rubio (Juvenile Court), Nastassia Walsh (CSG), Josh Weber (CSG)
Agenda Item	Welcome and Approval of Minutes
Notes	Spencer Larsen called the meeting to order in Karen's absence, and welcomed everyone. Judge Michie made the motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Brent Platt seconded the motion which passed unanimously .
Agenda Item	Systemic Priorities (tape part 1)
Notes	<p>Juvenile Court – Dawn Marie Rubio, Juvenile Court Administrator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of felony and misdemeanor referrals declined between FY '13 and FY '14, while child welfare proceedings increased slightly Child welfare cases make up 14% of the total cases handled by judges, but require 50% of judges' time due to their complexity. While Dawn Marie spoke about timeliness of case processing, Judge Michie asked if she would get statistics on the amount of time from offense to petition filing. The highest percentage of delinquency referrals to the juvenile court are for misdemeanor offenses followed by contempt and status offenses In 2013, offenders paid more than \$653,000 in restitution to the victims they harmed The recidivism rate increased slightly from 32% in 2010 to 33% in 2011 The percentage of positive drug tests increased 4% between 2012 and 2013 The courts have collaborated with tribes on child welfare matters and DHS on the System of Care Initiative. They have also participated in the DWS Intergenerational Poverty Commission. Other improvement projects include efforts to improve educational outcomes for children, increasing timeliness of case processing in child welfare cases, sponsoring the 2014 Court Improvement Project Summit, Development of the <i>2014 Juvenile Court Benchbook</i> for Judges and has completed their two-year plan for conversion to electronic records. <p>Juvenile Justice Services – Susan Burke, Director</p> <p>Susan noted that JJS has a new mission statement, which is: To be a leader in the field of juvenile justice by changing young lives, supporting families and keeping communities safe. This past years accomplishments include: Improving short-term and long-term outcomes for youths, supporting families in the rehabilitation process and improving the safety, security and morale of JJS youths and employees.</p> <p>Recidivism rates are too high. JJS is working to use evidence based practices to reduce it and is also conducting evidence based practices training for JJS staff and teachers. Currently there is mandatory training on procedural justice for staff and the goal is to have this occur statewide. Child placement and getting children back home and to their community as soon as possible is a focus point.</p> <p>JJS is seeking \$1.7 million in ongoing funding for Weber Valley Detention, \$338,500 for a Recidivism Reduction Initiative and \$19.6 million for the Weber Multi Use Facility.</p> <p>DCFS – Brent Platt, Director of DCFS</p> <p>Brent noted that while caseloads are not increasing, the work load is. DCFS is working on a memo of understanding with tribes to expand the "definition of kin" for DWS and is also working with legislators</p>

	to draft legislation to help keep biological children together by allowing more children to be fostered by one family.
Agenda Item	DMC School Resource Officer Best Practices Assessment (tape part 2)
Notes	<p>Dr. Moises Prospero stated that the ultimate goal is to have statewide training of SRO's. Currently there are no standard policies or practices outlining interactions and expectations between school resource officers and school administrators.</p> <p>The role of the SRO should be to: Address criminal activity and build relationships with students. They are not to have a role in daily discipline (which is the role of school administration). The goal is to not overuse SRO's to criminalize normal child and adolescent behavior.</p> <p>Recommendations from Moises' report include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written agreement between police departments and school districts • Create SRO job descriptions • Include school administration in SRO selection process • Require training for both SRO's and school administration • Seek alternatives to the juvenile justice system • Three Pilot Sites (high School and feeder middle and junior high schools) • Create two workgroups (policy and SRO training curriculum) <p>SRO pilot training will begin in January 2015 in three locations with follow up training in March and May of 2015.</p>
Agenda Item	U of U Criminal Justice Center Data Update (tape part 2, 45:05)
Notes	<p>Jennifer Loeffler-Cobia, Senior Research Analyst from the Utah Criminal Justice Center at the University of Utah College of Social Work presented an update on <i>Utah Youth Risk and Protective Factor and Evidence-Based Practice Quality Improvement</i>. Data from the 2013 SHARP survey is now available. Jennifer reviewed the following from RAPIT on the UBJJ web page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant characteristics and demographics • Statistics from 30 day Alcohol Tobacco and Drug Use (ATOD), Problem Substance Use, Anti-Social Behavior, and Risk and Protective Factors <p>Data show reductions in the following risk factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance abuse (with the exception of Marijuana use) • Antisocial Behavior • Risk Factors – Community and Family Domain • Protective Factors – Community and Family Domain <p>Areas to strengthen are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk Factors (school and peer-individual domain) • Protective Factors (school and peer-individual domain) <p>All the data is available on RAPIT and can be broken down by county, school etc. Gini Highfield noted that youth who are "in the system" may not be in school when the survey is taken. Judge Michie suggested putting together a fact sheet to distribute to the CCJJ Board and the legislature.</p>
Agenda Item	Council of State Governments (tape part 3)
Notes	<p>The Board discussed the white paper provided by The Council of State Governments. The paper is a guide for leaders across all branches of government on how to better leverage existing research and resources to facilitate system improvements that reduce recidivism and improve other outcomes for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The following core principles for reducing recidivism and improving other youth outcomes are listed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base supervision, service, and resource-allocation decisions on the results of validated risk and needs assessments. • Adopt and effectively implement programs and services demonstrated to reduce recidivism and improve other youth outcomes, and use data to evaluate the results and direct system improvements • Employ a coordinated approach across service systems to address youths' needs • Tailor system policies, programs, and supervision to reflect the distinct developmental needs of adolescents

	<p>Five states were included in their study to identify strengths and weakness in juvenile justice systems: Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Kansas and Utah. Judge Michie noted the lack of funding and resources for youth in the more sparsely populated areas of Utah and that local mental health authorities and state agencies don't work well together. The Judge would like to see a focus on youth who are in detention for contempt. It would be helpful to determine the efficacy of how detention is being used. Conditions of probation are not individualized. More alternatives to detention are needed across the state. Dave Walsh would like clearer definitions of what programs do.</p> <p>One thing that Utah does well is the "one judge, one family" approach. One thing lacking though is legal representation for youth in delinquency court. Many youth don't have access to legal counsel. Utah needs a mechanism in proceedings so that children do receive legal representation. It's easier for adults to get counsel than for the youth. Judge Michie suggested gathering data on youth without legal representation and how many end up in custody. This information could be obtained from the courts. Also look at race/ethnicity in that data.</p> <p>Reg asked the Board if we have the right youth in secure care and is data available to show why they are there and are they staying a reasonable length of time? The Board agreed that we need good after-care and intermediate care, where we have lost resources on the front and back end. It would be good to get data on how many are in custody for felony versus misdemeanor. Reg also asked to what extent are agencies working together? Brent Platt said that a multi-agency group could be helpful. Gini Highfield added that school collaboration is crucial in that they affect formal referrals to the courts. There is a school discipline report put out by the NRRC. Reg will send it to the Board.</p>
Agenda Item	Discussion and Planning (tape part 4)
Notes	<p>Reg led open discussion on overlap and common themes. We are looking at system improvement; there is no funding for new programs. Items for further study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal representation • Contempt issue • Time from offense to petition • Use of restraints study <p>Reg reviewed Title II Program Areas 1 – 36 to identify where there is overlap from a list for the 3 year plan. The Board discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile Justice System Improvement • Court Services • DMC • Aftercare/Reentry • Alternatives to Detention • Substance Abuse/Mental Health • Indigent Defense <p>Reg will compile a list for the Board to review and vote on in November.</p>
Next Meeting	The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2014, Utah State Capitol Complex, Copper Room, 8 am – 9:30 am

Minutes prepared by Jo Lynn Kruse – Administrative Assistant, CCJJ